

the people that could. So since the independent bankers have been the ones targeting you individually, and I know what happened over the weekend, I got the call same as you did, the pressure, I know, let's go through the four issues the independents have used in previous years, and everybody knows them, I don't have to make them up. Number one, multibank, remember, everybody said if you pass multibank that means the cities will charge higher rates. Remember? It was going to change all the interest rates and the country will be hurt. What happened? The country banks now charge about 2.5 to 3.5 percentage points more than all the city banks. Had nothing to do with multibank. I understand their problem, but their argument was false then, and inaccurate, just as the one on the 10 percent is now. Remember the other argument? The day multibank passed every little bank in the state was going to be gobbled up. Remember the gobble up argument?

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Everybody paraded it before you. Gobble, gobble, gobble, we're going to take over all the little banks. They are begging somebody to buy them today. They can't sell them. Failing bank bill they opposed violently. Why did they oppose it? Because everybody knew whoever the banking director was was going to declare every bank a failed bank and it was just a ploy. Well, ladies and gentlemen, the same ploy is being given to you today. Somehow at 10 percent branch banking statewide is good, but at 11 percent is somehow is horribly evil. I suggest to you at 11 percent it might be able to function efficiently to save a number of institutions that would be declared failed banks otherwise, and at 10 percent, in my opinion, you probably take that flexibility away. All you end up with at 10 percent is probably a statewide branch banking system without the benefits...

PRESIDENT: Your time is expired.

SENATOR DE CAMP: ...that could be used with that additional flexibility of 11 percent. I urge you not to adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Seeing no other lights for recognition, the Chair recognizes Senator Hefner to close.